



## Truth be Told ... and Retold

**H**ave you ever heard of the quip: “Don’t let facts get in the way of a good story”? Do you agree with it? Don’t get me wrong. I am not suggesting that we disregard facts, especially at a time when we are grappling with the issue of fake news. While facts are certainly important, we should also never downplay the importance of a good story in conveying the greater truths.

Sacred Scripture is, after all, primarily a collection of short tales, forming a grand sweeping narrative. It does not contain just any story, but “His”-story – the story of God. It is also our story, our Salvation History, recounting God’s abiding presence and care for His creatures. Imagine, if the Bible is nothing more than a manual containing rules and regulations, logical propositions and statements of theological facts, how effective would it then be in communicating an image of an intimate and loving God? Which do you think will move hearts, inspire hope and facilitate conversion? Faith stories or formal lectures on theology? While theological data and philosophical discourse will allow us to know some things about God, these stories help us come to know the Living God.

Any story has a beginning, middle and end. But any good story should also have a climax. Tension is built up gradually over the course of the narrative, and reaches its highest point when a definitive confrontation between contending forces occurs. It is as if the entire story is directed towards this focal point.

In our story of Christian faith, the climax is found in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ: the Paschal mystery. The Gospel narratives depict Jesus’ slow journey to Jerusalem to accomplish his mission of salvation. The repeated resistance he faced intensified progressively as he approached his destination, cumulating in his betrayal, arrest, condemnation and death. These events have universal significance because it is through Christ’s sacrifice that the power of sin is defeated and humanity is redeemed, and that we are raised to new life in his resurrection. God’s salvific plan was accomplished once and for all through Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection. Thus, Christians are neither simply “Easter people” nor “Good Friday people”, concerned with a particular dimension of faith, but a community invited to walk with Jesus in suffering, death, joy and resurrection, and share in the Paschal mystery.

As Christians, we keep alive the memory of Jesus, his mission and his love for the world through the sharing of stories associated with his suffering, death and resurrection. They also draw us deeper into the mystery of our faith and bring us closer to the Lord. The Church formally “tells and retells” these stories associated with the Paschal mystery during the liturgies of Holy Week, not only through words, but also with symbols and actions.

The first day of Holy Week is Passion or Palm Sunday, a week before Easter. The celebration on Palm Sunday begins with the commemoration of Jesus’

**EASTER TRIDUUM**

**HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER** 18 April, 7.30pm

**Reposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till midnight**  
11.00pm – 12midnight  
**Tenebrae** The Hour of Holy Darkness

**GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION** 19 April  
(NO 7.00am and 6.00pm Masses)  
**Morning Prayer** 7.00am – 8.00am

**Stations of the Cross** 9.00am  
By *Magis Family Ministry*  
**Good Friday Liturgy** 12 noon, 3.00pm and 6.00pm

**HOLY SATURDAY** 20 April  
(NO 7.00am and 6.00pm Masses)  
**Morning prayer** 7.00am – 8.00am

**EASTER VIGIL WITH MASS AND RCIA BAPTISM** 8.00pm

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S RESURRECTION** 21 April  
6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm (NO confession)

entrance into Jerusalem. Just as Jesus’ disciples had cheerfully followed him into the City of David, and as the people of Jerusalem had warmly welcomed the King, we too share in that joy in our liturgy. Palms, used to greet and honour Jesus as he entered the city, symbolize hope and victory. The blessed palm leaves that we take home and keep for the year are, therefore, hopeful reminders of the Lord’s complete triumph over sin and death. There is, however, inherent tension in the Palm Sunday liturgy. While we begin our celebration with great joy and gladness, the readings during Liturgy of the Word set a somber tone, recalling the Passion of the Lord.

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## PARISH NEWS

\$26,132.55 was collected **FOR THE POOR** on the weekend of 6/7 Apr 2019. Our parish's Society of St Vincent de Paul uses your donation for programmes to help the Poor. For more information, go to <https://stignatius.org.sg/home/ministries/service/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul>

Next weekend's **SECOND COLLECTION** is for the GIFT campaign by the Catholic Foundation.

### CLOSURE OF ADORATION ROOM

The Adoration Room will be closed from 6.00pm on Maundy Thursday and will reopen on Easter Sunday at 8.30am. As this season of Lent comes to a close, come participate in the Sacred Triduum that leads us to the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday. Go to Page 3 on Sacred Triduum for details.

### CLOSURE OF OFFICE

The parish office will be closed on Good Friday 19 April.

### CLOSURE OF CHURCH CARPARK AT KING'S ROAD

The King's Road gate leading to the Drop-off Point and the Church basement carpark will be closed from 7.30pm for the Easter Fire on Holy Saturday 20 April. The gate will only open at the end of the Easter Vigil Mass.

**COLLECTION FOR HOLY LAND** on Maundy Thursday 18 April, helps support the Church in the Holy Land. As Christians in the Middle East face challenging times, you will join Christians around the world to contribute funds to help conduct parish ministries, provide Catholic education, feed the poor, provide housing for Christians, maintain shrines and operate refugee centres in the Holy Land.

### BETTER LATE THAN NEVER:

#### CATECHESIS FOR LATE-BLOOMERS

Catechetical program for adults seeking confirmation on Saturday 8 June. Five sessions beginning from Thursday 2 May, 8.00pm at Annexe Hall. Others who need a "refresher course" on the faith are also welcome. First four sessions are conducted by Fr Jerome Leon, SJ, and the final by Ian de Vaz. Candidates for confirmation must attend all five sessions, with recollection (morning of 8 June), while confirmed parishioners may sign up for individual sessions.

## NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

### ZONE A DISTRICT 3 – ST JOSE MARIA RUBIO

Wednesday 17 April, #02-06

Programme: Symbolon, Session 4: Penance & Anointing of the Sick

### ZONE C DISTRICT 3 – ST THERESA OF CALCUTTA

Monday 15 April, Loyola Room, 7.30pm

Programme: Bishop Barron on Palm Sunday (video)

## DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Day	Date	Venue	Time	Speaker
1	Fri 19 April	St Ignatius Hall	10.45am	Fr Colin Tan, SJ
	Mercy for Ourselves. The fathomless depths of God's mercy for humankind			
2	Sat 20 April	St Ignatius Hall	3.00pm	Fr Ravi Michael, SJ
	Mercy for our priests and religious. "Through them as through channels, my Mercy flows out upon mankind."			
3	Sun 21 April	St Ignatius Hall	3.00pm	Fr Ravi Michael, SJ
	Devout and faithful souls. "These souls brought me consolation on the Way of the Cross."			
4	Mon 22 April	Main Church	After 6pm mass	Fr Gregory Tan, SJ
	Mercy for those who do not yet know or believe in God.			
5	Tue 23 April	Main Church	After 6pm mass	Fr Jerome Leon, SJ
	Wounded and hurting souls who long to "come home."			
6	Wed 24 April	Main Church	After 6pm mass	Fr Jerome Leon, SJ
	Mercy for children. For I am meek and humble of heart.			
7	Thur 25 April	Main Church	After 6pm mass	Sharing
	Blessed are the Merciful. Souls who venerate and glorify God's mercy....			
8	Fri 26 April	Main Church	After 6pm mass	Silent Reflection
	Souls in purgatory... There is no limit to God's goodness and compassion.			
9	Sat 27 April	Main Church	3.00pm	Fr Colin Tan, SJ
	Lukewarm and indifferent souls.... How to become "souls on fire with the Lord". Benediction and healing.			
<b>Feast of Divine Mercy</b> Sun 28 April		Main Church	With offerings of all petitions and thanksgiving. Unveiling of the new Divine Mercy painting and procession after Mass. All are welcome.	

### CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

There is no CRC prayer meeting this Wednesday 17 April. Our community will observe Holy Week together with the parish. We will be back on 24 April.

### EASTER JOY WITH SOLI DEO GLORIA (SDG)

Come celebrate Easter joy with *Soli Deo Gloria* (SDG) organist Kenneth Ngo, who will be holding A Prayer Concert titled "Kenny Ngo – The Lord Deserves All Praise" on Thursday, 4 May 2019 at 8pm in the main church.

### EASTER REFLECTION BOOKLET

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a booklet of reflections for the season of Easter in English, Mandarin and Tamil. The theme is "Witnessing in Communion". Please take home the booklet for your family. Online copy at: <http://bit.ly/one-easter-2019>

**Laudato Si:**  
**Care for Creation**  
"We are the guardians of creation," says Pope Francis. "We are invited to do our part, no matter how small."

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# PASCHAL

**T**here are no masses during the day on Holy Thursday except for the Chrism Mass [10:20am @ St Joseph's Church, Bukit Timah]. The Chrism mass is a celebration and manifests the unity of the bishop, the priests of his diocese and also the faithful, forming the Body of Christ. The Archbishop, who is the main celebrant, consecrates Holy Chrism, the fragrant oil used for anointing in the Sacraments of Confirmation and Ordination, and also for infant baptism. The Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens are also blessed at this celebration. The oils are distributed and brought back to all parishes and communities as a sign of their communion and unity with the Archbishop. Traditionally, the Chrism Mass is also the celebration of Christ's institution of the priesthood at the Last Supper. Thus, priests present at the mass are asked by the bishop to renew their priestly promises to remain faithful to their vocation, and also ask the congregation to pray for them.

The liturgical celebrations, beginning with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, reaching its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closing with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, constitutes the Sacred Paschal Triduum, and is celebrated as a single ritual.

The parish community formally receives the newly blessed Oils of the Sick and Catechumens, and Holy Chrism, at the Mass of the Lord's Supper [7:30pm]. They are placed in the Ambry to be used for the various sacraments and rites for the following year. Holy Thursday is also known as Maundy Thursday, and term "Maundy" is derived from the Latin word "Mandatum" meaning "commandment". Following the Lord's commandment to love and serve one another as he has done (John 13:34-35), expressed by his washing of the disciples' feet at the Last Supper, the presider of the evening mass on Maundy Thursday also washes the feet of 12 individuals chosen from the community. At the end of mass, there is no dismissal as the liturgy continues the following day. All items are then removed from the altar, the sanctuary lamp extinguished,

and the tabernacle emptied and its door left opened. The stripped altar and the empty tabernacle remind us of Jesus' lonely passage to his passion and death. The Blessed Sacrament is transferred to the Place of Repose so that the faithful can keep vigil in adoration. Remember that Jesus had said to Peter, John and James: "My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me" (Matthew 26:38).

The Passion of the Lord [12noon, 3pm, 6pm] is celebrated on Good Friday and consists of 3 parts: the Liturgy of the Word, the Adoration of the Holy Cross, and Holy Communion. It is not a mass but a service, as there is no consecration of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.

# TRIDUUM

The service is deliberately simple to reflect the somber mood of the occasion: we are called to ponder on Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. Following the Liturgy of the Word is the Solemn Intercessions. Here, the Church prays for the entire world, Christians and also non-Christians. After the intercessions, the hidden cross is gradually unveiled, as the priest sings, "Behold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world", and the congregation responds, "Come let us adore." While non-believers cannot see beyond the wood of the cross, the faithful considers the cross as the powerful symbol of our redemption. We do not adore simply the cross, but Christ crucified who died for our sins. Following communion, and after the priest prays over the people, everyone genuflects to the Cross and departs in silence. Again, there is no dismissal as the liturgy of the Sacred Triduum continues the following day.

On Holy Saturday, "the Church waits at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his Passion and Death, awaiting His Resurrection. All remains bare, empty, quiet in anticipation of the elaborate celebration and joyous

period at the Vigil that will prevail for 50 days." The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening begins with the blessing of the Paschal Candle representing Jesus Christ. The lit Paschal Candle is brought into the church awaiting in darkness, signifying Christ the Light, illuminating the world darkened by sin and evil. The priest or deacon chants the Exsultet proclaiming the Lord's resurrection and liberating humanity from sin and death. The Sacraments of Initiation are also celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening. The Elects are baptized and confirmed, and candidates coming from other Christian traditions are received into the Catholic Church. The Elects die with Christ and by the Sacrament of Baptism, they are also resurrected with Him.

St Ignatius Church is unique in that the seats and pews can be reconfigured to form a Liturgical Avenue. It is distinguished from the rest of the space by the light coloured tiles, and runs

almost the entire length of the church from the Place of Reconciliation, through the Baptismal Pool, to the Sanctuary. The wider space it offers certainly facilitates the movement required for the initiation rites. Moreover, the "physical linking" of the 3 sacraments (reconciliation, baptism and Eucharist) by the Liturgical Avenue helps the congregation reflect on their faith journey through these sacraments as they participate in the Easter liturgy. We encounter Jesus through our wholehearted participation in the Sacramental Life of the Church.

As the neophytes are welcomed as newly baptized members of the Church, the faithful are also invited to affirm our commitment to "sharing in Christ's death, and rising with him in new life" (Romans 6:3-4). This re-commitment is expressed liturgically at the masses on Easter Sunday, by sprinkling the congregation with the freshly blessed "Water of Life" and the renewal of Baptismal Promises. These rituals help us remember our rebirth and offer thanks for our new life in the Lord.

**FR JEROME LEON, SJ**

## JESUIT NEWS

### MARITAL FIRST RESPONDER (MFR) TRAINING WORKSHOP

Pick up the seven essential skills needed to help individuals with marital issues. Learn to discern when to listen, give guidance, or direct friends and family members to seek professional counselling help.

Facilitator: Fr Charles Sim, SJ Ph.D.

Date/Time: Saturday, 27 April 2019, 9.30am - 5.30pm

Contribution: \$150 (includes lunch & refreshments)

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/mfr19>

**Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356**

Fr Christopher Soh, SJ, Fr James Tan, SJ

**Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225**

Fr Gerald Tseng, SJ, Fr Charles Sim, SJ, Fr Leslie Raj, SJ, Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ,  
Fr Gregory Tan, SJ, Fr Ravi Michael Louis, SJ, Msgr Philip Heng, SJ, Fr Adrian Danker, SJ,

**Kingsmead Centre, Tel: 6467 6072 Jesuit Mission Office Tel: 6463 6022**

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### SEXUAL RISK FORUM II – PORN PROOF YOUR CHILD

Saturday 27 April, 9am - 1pm

Pornography – one of the most pervasive and perilous issues in sexuality. For parents/teachers/catechists/all to be equipped with knowledge and tools on how to porn-proof children. Register online at [sexualforum2019.peatix.com](http://sexualforum2019.peatix.com) or call 6488 0278.

### MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS COURSE 2019

By Rev Fr David Garcia, OP.

Personal Moral Compass Course for all Catholics and all people of goodwill interested in formation in the foundations of Ethics and Moral Theology. A year-long systematic course, organised under Caritas Singapore, in Moral Theology

consisting of 6 individual modules.

3rd Module Christian Morality begins on 26 April and will be held weekly (for 7 sessions) on Fridays, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, at Catholic Centre, 55 Waterloo Street. Registration and information at [www.caritas-singapore.org](http://www.caritas-singapore.org) or email [formation@caritas-singapore.org](mailto:formation@caritas-singapore.org)

**PIETA** is a support group for bereaved parents who seek God's comfort, wisdom and hope through prayer and reflection on the WORD OF GOD. Our next monthly session (every 4th Tuesday of the month) is on Tuesday 23 April, 7:30pm at Agape Village, Toa Payoh Lorong 8. Contact us via email: [pieta.singapore@gmail.com](mailto:pieta.singapore@gmail.com) or facebook: <https://facebook.com/PietaSingapore>



Bring Jesus Christ to the rest of the world. This is the duty of every Christian.

### Church Office

120, King's Road, Singapore 268172 or 8, Victoria Park Road, Singapore 266492

### Entrance via 8 Victoria Park Road

Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence), St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall, Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian Spirituality & Counselling)

### Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

### Weekday Masses

Monday – Friday: 7.00am & 6.00pm

Saturday: 7.00am

### Confessions

Every Friday & Saturday: 5.40pm

Every Sunday Mass: 20mins before Mass begins

### Infant Baptism (each month)

Briefing for parents & godparents (compulsory): 1st Sunday, 3.00pm

Baptism: 2nd Sunday, 3.00pm sharp

Registration forms are available at front of Church office

### Weddings

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least one year before the wedding.

Contact: Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614)

### Visiting Hours (Columbarium)

Open daily from 6.30 am to 8.00 pm (including weekends & Public Holidays)

Memorial Mass at the Main Church every 4th Friday, 6.00 pm for all deceased parishioners and families, followed by prayers in Columbarium.

### Inigo Bookstore

Wednesday to Saturday: 4.30pm to 7.00pm and during Sunday Masses. Closed on Monday and Tuesday

### Sick, Elderly and Homebound

Please contact the parish office if help is needed for parishioners hospitalised (regardless of hospital).

In emergencies, you may also contact priests' residence at 6466 3225

### Bereavement

Please contact the parish Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614) for help and advice before contacting the funeral director.

**Church of St Ignatius has no official social media account.**

### WEEKLY

#### Rosary Devotion in Church

Monday to Saturday, after 7am Mass and Monday to Friday 5.15pm to 5.45pm, except first Friday of the month

#### Intercessory Prayers

Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room, Level 2

Catholic content online, login:

[www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org); parish code: 4904ed

#### Gentle Light

Tuesday, 10am – 12noon in St Francis

Xavier Chapel (Kingsmead)

Thursday, 10am – 12noon in Sacred Heart

Canteen (Room SH-A)

#### Divine Mercy Devotion

Every Wednesday after 6.00pm Mass in the Main Church.

#### Christian Meditation

Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

### MONTHLY – in Main Church

#### Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass

Every 1st Friday, 8.00pm (No 6.00pm Mass)

Followed by **Eucharistic Adoration by Generation CHRIST!**

#### Children Eucharistic Adoration

Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm. No session in June and December

#### Memorial Mass

Every 4th Friday, 6.00pm, followed by prayers in the Columbarium